

November 2014

The INFORMANT

The Kansas City Missouri Police Department



Renovated Headquarters rededicated

Hundreds of people came to celebrate the rededication of Police Headquarters on Nov. 13 after the most extensive renovations the building has received since it was constructed in 1938.

Most were agog at the changes: A wide-open lobby clad in marble. A Homicide Unit that wasn't cramped into a "Barney Miller"-type space but instead spread over two spacious floors with modern amenities.

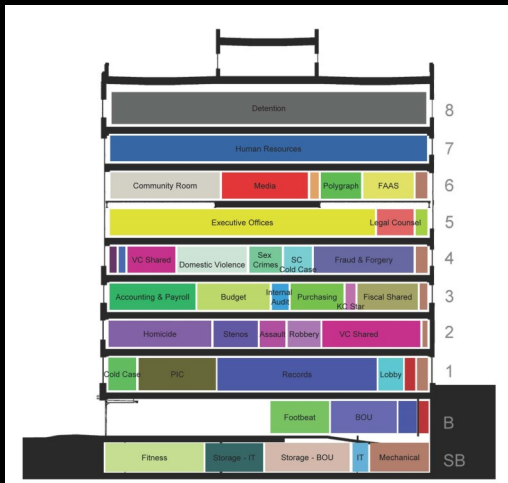
Major Sharon Laningham of the Capital Improvements Unit said the original goal of the remodel was just to fix spaces that had been largely untouched since 1938: the second, third and seventh floors. But as Helix Architects looked at the building's plumbing and mechanical systems, they were in a different place on every floor and in disrepair.

"When we were trying to price it, it didn't make sense to just put a Band-aid on this," Major Laningham said. "We wanted to sit down and do it right."

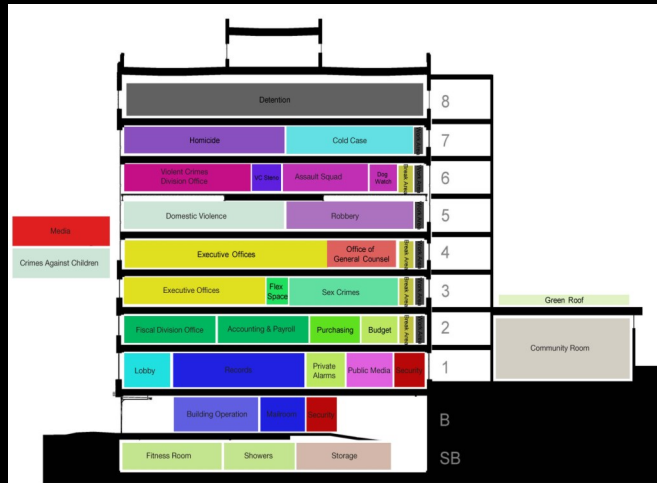
With encouragement from the Board of Police Commissioners, the project moved forward as a total renovation. Officer Rhonda Schulte served as the Project Officer.

The \$40 million remodel was funded by the quarter-cent public safety sales tax approved by voters. The renovation provides adequate space and up-to-date facilities for 266 administrative and investigative employees of the Kansas City Missouri Police Department. Police Headquarters also is now compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The project included the acquisition and minor renovation of the Headquarters Annex at 901 Charlotte. The building formerly served as J.E. Dunn Headquarters and had been acquired by the City. The City let KCPD take it over at no cost, and it now houses everything from the Employment Unit to the Real-Time Crime Center. Major Laningham said moving those employees to the Annex opened up additional space at 1125 Locust.



Before the renovation, in the diagram at left, offices were cramped together. Now detectives and administrative employees have much more room to work, as shown at right.



The renovation began in 2012 and will conclude early next year. The most noticeable change is the tower that was constructed on the north side of the building. It houses all new HVAC systems, restrooms and an additional stairway. This created more room in the interior

of the building. The outside is covered in zinc that was designed to mimic the woven fabric pattern of KCPD's formal Eisenhower Jackets.

The Nov. 13 rededication ceremony took place in the community room, located at the bottom of the tower. It is enclosed by glass walls and seats 300 people. The Board of Police Commissioners will meet there, as will community groups. It also will serve as an event space for everything from blood drives to retirement parties.

But for those who have been around Headquarters for a while, the most striking change was to the lobby. Many guests at the Rededication Ceremony "oohed" and "aaahed" at the space that had once been so dark and narrow. It's now wide open and clad in marble that was recovered from throughout the building. Over the years, much of that marble had been plastered or painted over. The marble was removed, cleaned and then reinstalled in the lobby.

The Kansas City Police Historical Society installed numerous displays of photographs and items from the department's 140-year history in display cases in the lobby and on the fourth floor, new home of the office of Chief of Police. That history played a large part in the rededication event Nov. 13. Bill Dunn Sr. spoke about how the original Headquarters building erected in 1938 was the largest project his grandfather's construction company ever had completed at that time. Coming full-circle, J.E. Dunn did nearly all of the construction on the renovation.

Pg. 2 Headquarters Rededication Pictures Bench Dedication

Pg. 3 Rico - New Canine

Pg. 4 Officially Speaking Upcoming Events

Headquarters Rededication



Bench Dedicated to Al Sauer on Trail of Heroes



Retired Police Officer Alfred (Al) E. Sauer, III, was honored on November 1 when the bench his family donated was dedicated on the Trail of Heroes. Officer Sauer passed away July 14, 2014. He was a member of the Kansas City Police Department for 27 years before joining the Riverside Police Department. His daughter, Diana Sauer, is a Communications Specialist in the Communications Unit. Daughter Teresa Fox is a former Parking Control Officer.

Company donates canine to KCPD

Two dogs. Same breed. Same handler. Same birthday. A tragedy made better by a generous gift.

The Kansas City Police Department was fortunate to get the attention of Summit Nutritionals International, Inc. The company donated \$12,000 to purchase a new canine to replace Brunie, who died in the line of duty in September. The new dog is Rico, a 3-year-old Belgian Malinois, who will partner with Officer Jason Brungardt. Rico and Brunie even have the same birthday.

Helping police departments who have lost canines is a worthy cause for Caesar DePaço, Founder & CEO of Summit Nutritionals International, Inc., and Deanna Padovani-DePaço, President.

"It has just become something that became very important to my husband and me," Deanna said. "We feel that it is very important to fill that void and to keep everyone safe with their dogs."

Summit Nutritionals is on a mission to help step in and pay for replacements after tragic losses of canine officers. Brunie died after a search for a suspect in a wooded area led to him contracting dysautonomia, a fast-moving degenerative disease of the nervous system.

Summit Nutritionals also is willing to help law enforcement agencies launch canine units.

"It takes a lot of funds and support from the community," Deanna said. "But we want to be there to help them get that started."

Caesar and Deanna DePaço had the pleasure of watching Rico be-



The Canine Unit accepted the donation of Rico from Summit Nutritionals Inc. with a small ceremony. Rico replaces Brunie, who died in the line of duty in September.

come certified in patrol work.

"He passed with flying colors," Deanna said.

Summit Nutritionals bought Rico from Vohne Liche Kennels in Denver, Indiana, the source of KCPD's other dogs.

After the loss of his previous canine partner, Officer Jason Brungardt said he is truly blessed to get Rico. He plans to use Rico as a dual-purpose patrol dog, trained for patrol work and detecting explosives.

Officer Brungardt likes to describe Rico as a light switch.

"He will go out and take care of business immediately," he says. "He will then come right back and turn that light switch off and be all loving and want to nuzzle up to you, he is truly an exceptional dog."

The team will be ready for whatever comes their way. "Anytime there is a bomb threat or just regular calls for service, we will be right there to take them down," Brungardt said.



Upcoming Events

November 1
Chiefs Tent Event

November 12
25 Year Ring Ceremony

November 13
Headquarters Rededication

November 20
**Citizens Academy
Graduation**

November 25
**Board of Police
Commissioners Meeting
(Headquarters)**

December 5
Promotion Ceremony

December 16
**Board of Police
Commissioners Meeting
(Headquarters)**

The Informant is a publication of
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(816) 234-5170
www.kcpd.org

Officially Speaking

25-Year Ring

Sergeant David Berg
Officer Joseph Caponetto
Master Patrol Officer Richard Cartwright
Sergeant Barbara Eckert
Detective Wayne Fitzner
Major Ronald Fletcher
Administrative Assistant Tracy Hawkins
Inventory Specialist Robert Koenig
Network Administrator Cheryl Krupka
Fleet Operations Technician Frank Manillo
Sergeant Mark Mosbacher
Communications Specialist Jeffrey Ohmes
Sergeant Darrel Rocker
Sergeant Michael Seward
Officer Giuseppe Trombino
Sergeant Bret Whitworth
Sergeant Robert Wynne

Obituaries

Retired Major Francis Tye
Retired Officer Gordon Rowland
Retired Detective Richard Otte

Awards

Life Saving Award
Detective Eric Powell-Ellison

Certificate of Commendation
Officer Richard Hampton
Officer Willie Watson

Retirements

Officer Mark Carrel
Officer Frank Disciacca
Reserve Officer Sharyn Mills
Administrative Assistant
Rose Pierce

The mission of the Kansas City
Missouri Police Department
is to protect and serve with
professionalism, honor
and integrity.